

P. Horne, Ted
(Craig under Horne)

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P-Buckley, William

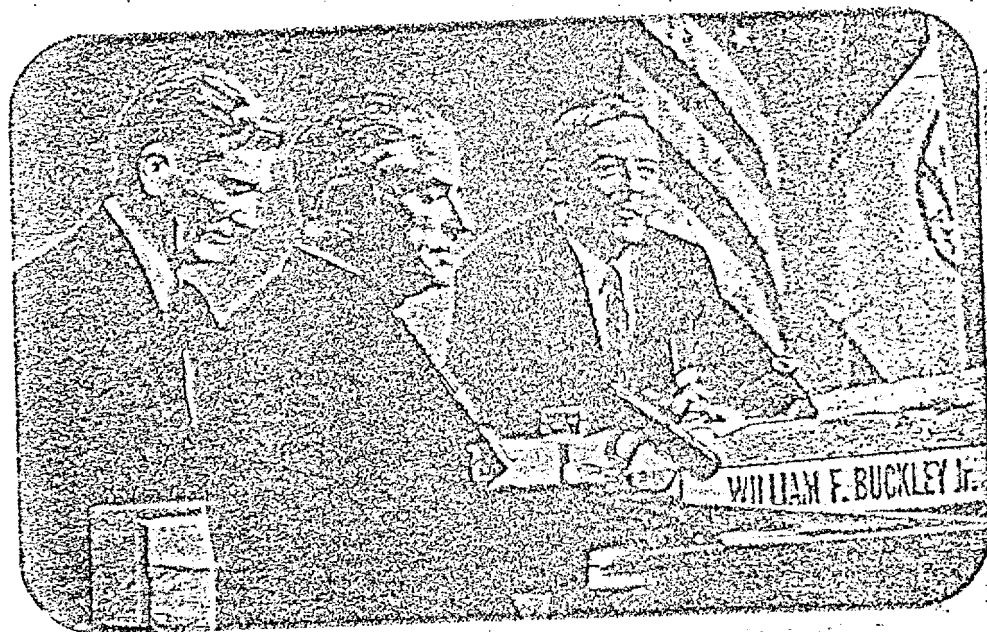
Queen



William Buckley's first book, written after college, was 'God and Man at Yale,' a highly critical reaction to his alma mater.



Just before entering the CIA, Buckley married Vancouver-born Pat Taylor, who attended Vassar for two years.



Asked what he'd do if he beat Lindsay and Beame in the '55 New York mayoral race, Buckley snapped: "Demand a recount."

plicably, Buckley reveals both his CIA alias and the function he performed in that disguise. "You must promise not to print that though." Buckley will tell anyone his stint as a spy was humdrum to the point of "sheer boredom. I left the agency after about eight months."

There is nothing dull, however, about the adventures of Blackford Oakes, the 1950ish *Übermensch* of Buckley's novel. Oakes's first mission is to insinuate himself, at CIA expense, into the coterie of dashing people sur-

rounding Queen Caroline herself. The requirements of undercover penetration (a Buckleyan metaphor that reaches fuller dimension in the queen's boudoir) are stimulating enough to make young Blackford an agency man for life and, not incidentally, to have vaulted the novel onto best-seller lists.

Caroline bears no resemblance to Elizabeth II, but much of Blackford Oakes is, of course, Buckley. Says his friend and ideological *bête grise* J. K. Galbraith: "The book is an unparalleled exercise in self-revelation."

Oakes graduated from Yale in 1951, Buckley in 1950, both a little behind schedule due to the war. In officer's candidate training at Ft. Benning, Ga. in 1944, until "some computer discov-

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